

CRACKING DIE ASSEMBLY FOR  
HIGH PRODUCTION NUTCRACKING APPARATUS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5       A cracking die assembly which is adapted for use in  
a high production nutcracking apparatus of the type  
wherein a nut is held between an anvil and a cracking  
die, and a shuttle then impacts against the rearward end  
face of the cracking die to sharply advance the cracking  
die and thereby crack the shell of the nut. The cracking  
10   die assembly includes a mounting sleeve having a bore  
with an internal shoulder, and a tubular retainer mounted  
within a portion of the sleeve bore so as to engage the  
shoulder of the sleeve. An annular gasket is fixedly  
mounted in the bore of the retainer, and the cracking die  
15   has a radial flange which is positioned to lie between  
the shoulder in the bore of the sleeve, and the gasket.  
Also, the gasket and radial flange have conforming  
surfaces which engage when the cracking die is impacted  
by the shuttle, and the gasket is free to radially expand  
20   to absorb a portion of the impacting force of the  
shuttle.

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